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NWT Labour Force Activity
- September 2013 -

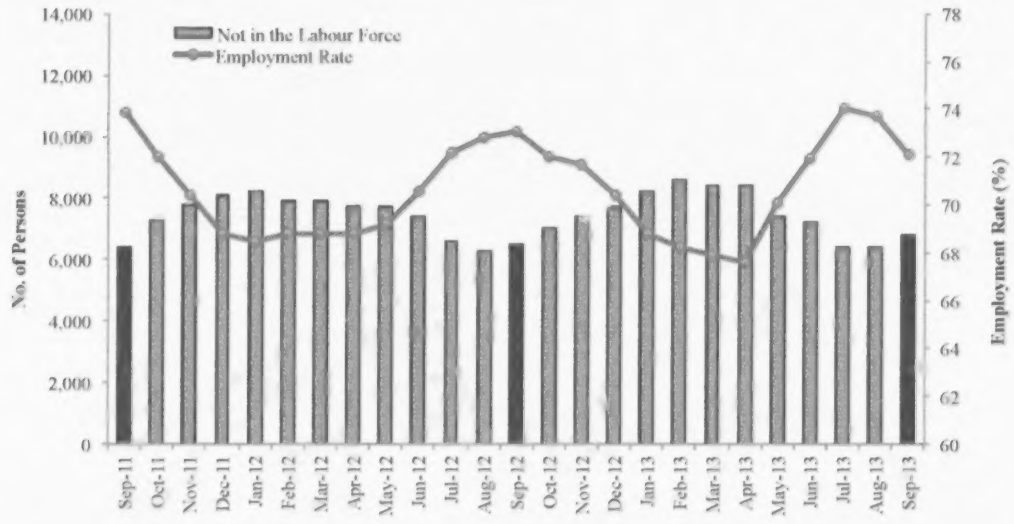
In September 2013, Statistics Canada estimates that 23,000 persons were employed in the Northwest Territories representing an employment rate of 72.1%. Nationally, Canada's employment rate stood at 62.5%.

Compared to last month, the NWT employment rate decreased by 1.6 percentage points, translating into 500 fewer employed persons. Overall, labour force activity in the NWT is decreasing following the seasonal cycle of higher employment during the summer months.

Table 1 Monthly Highlights
Northwest Territories, September 2013

	Sep-13	Aug-13	Sep-12
Population	31,900	31,900	32,000
Labour Force	25,100	25,500	25,600
Employed	23,000	23,500	23,400
Unemployed	2,100	2,000	2,200
Not in Labour Force	6,800	6,400	6,500
Participation (%)	78.7	79.9	80.0
Employment (%)	72.1	73.7	73.1
Unemployment (%)	8.4	7.8	8.6

Figure 1 Persons Not in the Labour Force and Employment Rates
Northwest Territories, 2011-2013



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While all key characteristics experienced employment rate declines, those 15-24 experienced the largest decrease. Compared to last month, the employment rate for youth decreased by 3.1 percentage points, likely due to the return to school of students.

Table 2 ***Employment Rates by Key Characteristics Northwest Territories***

	Sep-13		Aug-13		Jul-13	
	Employed (Persons)	Employment rate (%)	Employed (Persons)	Employment rate (%)	Employed (Persons)	Employment rate (%)
Northwest Territories	23,000	72.1	23,500	73.7	23,600	74.0
15-24 Yrs.	3,500	53.8	3,700	56.9	3,500	53.8
25 Yrs. & Over	19,500	76.8	19,800	78.0	20,100	79.1
Males	12,100	72.9	12,200	73.5	12,400	74.7
Females	10,900	71.2	11,300	73.9	11,200	72.7
Aboriginal	8,000	55.9	8,200	57.7	8,100	57.4
Non-Aboriginal	15,000	84.7	15,300	86.4	15,500	86.6
Yellowknife	13,200	82.0	13,500	83.3	13,500	83.3
Other	9,800	62.0	10,000	63.7	10,100	64.3

Between September and August, 500 fewer people were employed, many of them full-time public employees. While over the last year there were 400 fewer people employed, there has been a shift away from public employment into self-employment. Between September 2012 and September 2013, public employment decreased by 900 people, whereas self-employment increased by 600.

Table 3 ***Monthly and Yearly Change in Employment by Selected Characteristics Northwest Territories, September 2013***

				Aug-13 to Sep-13	Sep-12 to Sep 13
	Sep-13	Aug-13	Sep-12	Change (persons)	
Total Employment	23,000	23,500	23,400	(500)	(400)
Full-time	21,100	21,500	21,400	(400)	(300)
Part-time	1,800	2,000	2,000	(200)	(200)
Employees	21,000	21,500	21,900	(500)	(900)
Public	10,000	10,600	10,900	(600)	(900)
Private	11,000	10,900	11,000	100	-
Self-employment	2,000	2,000	1,400	-	600
Goods Producing	4,000	4,000	4,000	-	-
Service Producing	19,000	19,500	19,400	(500)	(400)

The following table presents historical labour force activity in the Northwest Territories.

Table 4 ***Labour Force Activity***
Northwest Territories

	Population 15 & Over	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the Labour Force	Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate	Employment Rate
Sep-13	31,900	25,100	23,000	2,100	6,800	78.7	8.4	72.1
Aug-13	31,900	25,500	23,500	2,000	6,400	79.9	7.8	73.7
Jul-13	31,900	25,500	23,600	1,900	6,400	79.9	7.5	74.0
Jun-13	32,000	24,800	23,000	1,800	7,200	77.5	7.3	71.9
May-13	32,100	24,700	22,500	2,200	7,400	76.9	8.9	70.1
Apr-13	32,100	23,700	21,700	2,000	8,400	73.8	8.4	67.6
Mar-13	32,100	23,700	21,800	1,900	8,400	73.8	8.0	67.9
Feb-13	32,100	23,500	21,900	1,600	8,600	73.2	6.8	68.2
Jan-13	32,100	23,900	22,100	1,700	8,200	74.5	7.1	68.8
Dec-12	32,100	24,400	22,600	1,800	7,700	76.0	7.4	70.4
Nov-12	32,100	24,700	23,000	1,700	7,400	76.9	6.9	71.7
Oct-12	32,100	25,000	23,100	1,900	7,000	77.9	7.6	72.0
Previous Years:								
Sep-12	32,000	25,600	23,400	2,200	6,500	80.0	8.6	73.1
Sep-11	32,200	25,700	23,800	1,900	6,400	79.8	7.4	73.9
Sep-10	32,300	23,900	22,300	1,600	8,400	74.0	6.7	69.0
Sep-09	32,100	22,700	20,900	1,800	9,400	70.7	7.9	65.1
Sep-08	32,100	24,600	23,300	1,300	7,600	76.6	5.3	72.6
Sep-07	31,800	25,300	23,900	1,500	6,500	79.6	5.9	75.2
Sep-06	31,400	24,600	23,400	1,100	6,800	78.3	4.5	74.5
Sep-05	31,300	24,500	23,100	1,400	6,800	78.3	5.7	73.8
Sep-04	31,000	24,200	22,900	1,300	6,800	78.1	5.4	73.9
Sep-03	30,400	23,500	21,900	1,600	6,900	77.3	6.8	72.0

Information on the territorial labour market is a result of the extension of Statistics Canada's national labour force survey (LFS) to the Northwest Territories. Data presented for the Northwest Territories is based on three-month moving averages, with survey counts rounded to the nearest 100 persons.

For additional information on the monthly release of labour force survey results for the Northwest Territories, visit the NWT Bureau of Statistics website at http://www.statsnwt.ca or call (867) 873-7147.

Next Release: November 8, 2013